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The Aluminum Situation

Department of Economics and Statistics — **December 1984**

Ten Month Shipments Up 7.2 Percent

Net shipments for ten months of 1984, at an estimated 12,892 million pounds, were 7.2 percent higher than the 12,026 million pounds for 1983's first ten months.

NOTE: These data reflect downward government revisions to shipments for the first seven months of 1984. Please see the 10 month insert for prior month estimated revisions.

Thru October 1984

	10 mos. 1984	10 mos. 1983	% Change
Mill Products	10,189	9,242	+10.3
Ingot	2,703	2,784	- 2.9
Total	12,892	12,026	+ 7.2
Less Exports	(880)	(1,002)	-12.1
Domestic Total	12,012	11,024	+ 9.0

Millions of Pounds
Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census.

Production Rate Up 2.5 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 11,955 short tons daily during November 1984 compared with an average 11,665 tons a day in November 1983.

The annual rate of production in November 1984 was 4,375,530 tons, compared to 4,257,664 tons in November 1983. October 1984 production rate was 4,403,907 tons.

Actual production in November 1984 was 358,659 tons.

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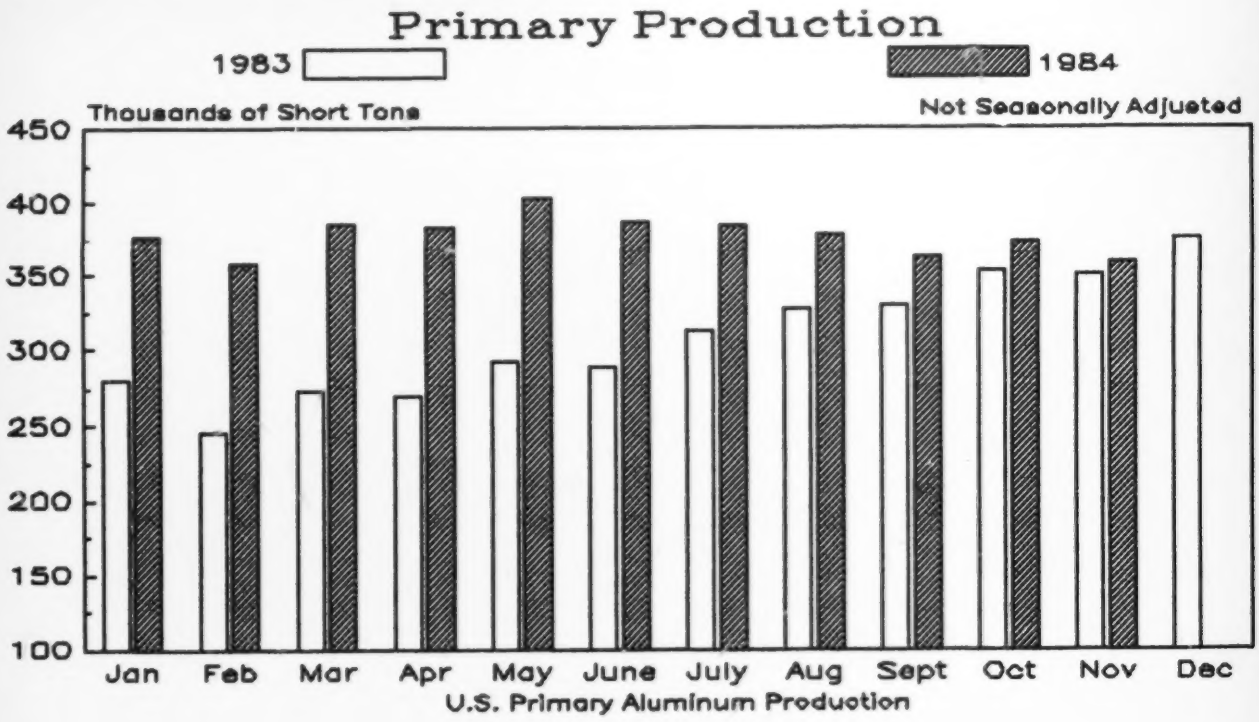
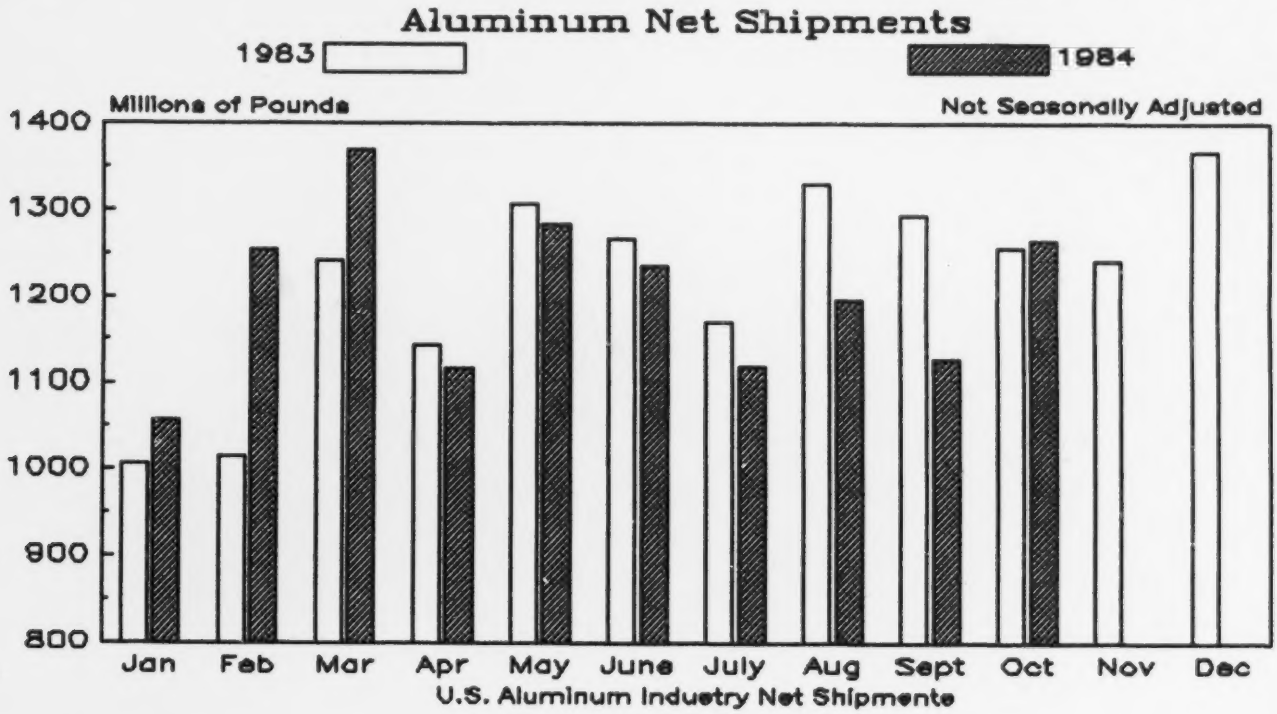


Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

October 1984 Shipments 8.9 Percent Above Year Ago

October 1984 net shipments at an estimated 1,264 million pounds were 8.9 percent above October 1983 shipments. Revised shipments for 10 months of 1984 were 7.2 percent over the same 1983 period. (See added table for monthly revisions in 1984.)



Net Shipments

(Millions of Pounds)

	1984 Oct.*	1983 Oct.	1984 10 mos.*	1983 10 mos.	% Change YTD 1984 vs. 1983
Sheet	497.0	508.8	5,213.7	5,070.7	+ 2.8
Plate	25.0	15.4	217.3	166.6	+30.4
Foil	77.0	72.3	717.3	685.2	+ 4.7
Rod, Bar & Wire	25.0	19.6	229.3	195.8	+17.1
Electrical Conductor	70.0	55.4	613.7	576.5	+10.7
Extruded Products	244.0	209.4	2,180.3	1,892.3	+15.2
Welded Tube	4.0	6.0	52.4	45.9	+14.2
Powder & Paste	9.0	5.7	80.7	67.7	+19.2
Forgings & Impacts	14.0	11.0	124.6	95.1	+31.0
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	78.0	61.4	759.7	445.7	+70.5
Total Mill Products	1,043.0	965.0	10,189.0	9,241.5	+10.3
Ingot (b)	300.0	292.2	2,703.1	2,784.5	- 2.9
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,343.0	1,257.2	12,892.1	12,026.0	+ 7.2
Exports	(79.2)	(96.7)	(880.3)	(1,001.5)	-12.1
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,263.8	1,160.5	12,011.8	11,024.5	+ 9.0

*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.
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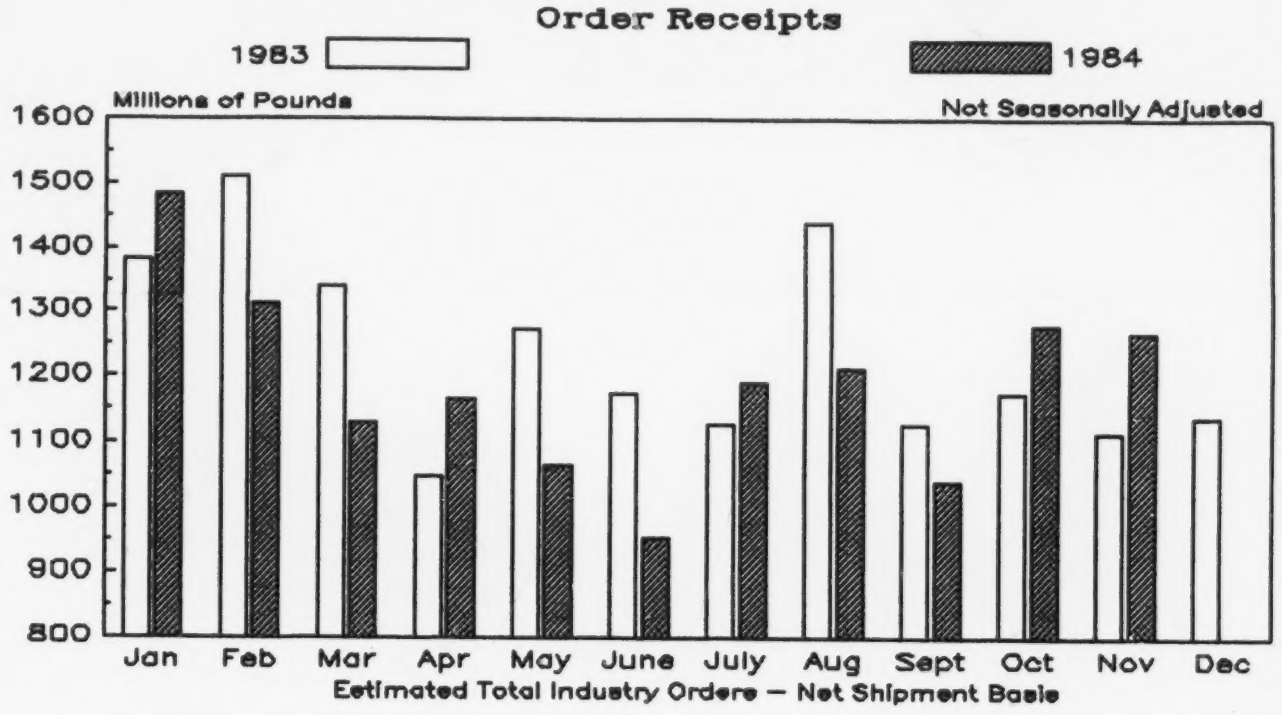
November 1984 Orders 14.6 Percent Above Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for November 1984 of 1,266 million pounds were 14.6 percent higher than the November 1983 total of 1,105 million pounds. For the eleven months of 1984, orders were down 4.5 percent from the similar 1983 period.



Order Receipts

(Millions of Pounds)

	1984* Nov.	1983 Nov.	1984 11 months	1983 11 months	% Change YTD 1984 vs. 1983
Can Stock(a)	239.6	226.4	2,770.8	2,867.0	- 3.4
Sheet & Plate, Other	296.1	338.2	3,016.1	3,900.2	-22.7
Foil	62.5	86.6	737.4	818.5	- 9.9
Rod, Bar & Wire	15.6	17.9	242.3	215.3	+12.5
Electrical Conductor	59.0	77.3	683.3	665.6	+ 2.7
Extruded Products	200.0	164.2	2,146.5	2,081.2	+ 3.1
Powder & Paste	3.6	5.3	96.1	86.4	+11.2
Forgings & Impacts	12.1	7.6	125.4	74.6	+68.1
Domestic Mill Products	888.5	923.5	9,817.9	10,708.8	- 8.3
Ingot(Total)	282.7	111.9	2,403.0	2,026.8	+18.6
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,171.2	1,035.4	12,220.9	12,735.6	- 4.0
Exports	95.1	69.9	862.8	964.7	-10.6
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,266.3	1,105.3	13,083.7	13,700.3	- 4.5

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to, the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.
(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.
*Latest month.
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Inventories Increased in October 1984 By 21 Million Pounds

Producer inventories increased an estimated 21 million pounds in October 1984 from September 1984. Integrated producers' stocks went up 35 million pounds and smelters' and nonintegrated producers' stocks went down.

Month-End Aluminum Inventories
By Type of Producer
Figures in Millions of Pounds

Month	Total*	Integrated	Smelters	Non-Integrated
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,180	5,224	216	740
Oct 83	5,273	4,260	198	815
Nov 83	5,191	4,140	193	858
Dec 83	4,994	3,979	163	853
Jan 84	5,176	4,081	206	889
Feb 84	5,229	4,116	209	904
Mar 84	5,305	4,167	214	923
Apr 84	5,435	4,289	218	928
May 84	5,579	4,417	233	928
Jun 84	5,618	4,474	240	904
Jul 84	5,775	4,622	234	919
Aug 84	5,794r	4,640	225	930r
Sep 84	5,879r	4,710r	235r	944r
Oct 84	5,900	4,745	225	930

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports

(Millions of Pounds)

		1984 Oct.	1983 Oct.	1984 10 mos.	1983 10 mos.	% Change 1984 v. 1983
Imports	Mill Products	104.0	65.2	952.2	508.8	+87.2
	Ingot	185.5	128.1	1,692.4	1,408.9	+20.1
	Total	289.4	193.4	2,644.6	1,917.7	+37.9
	Scrap (+ dross)	25.3	24.5	271.2	160.6	+68.9
	Grand Total	314.8	217.8	2,915.8	2,078.2	+40.3
Exports	Mill Products	43.5	36.3	438.3	371.4	+18.0
	Ingot	35.7	60.3	441.9	630.0	-29.9
	Total	79.2	96.7	880.2	1,001.5	-12.1
	Scrap	55.4	43.7	410.4	444.2	- 7.6
	Grand Total	134.6	140.4	1,290.6	1,445.6	-10.7
Net Imports		180.2	44.8	1,292.8	538.7	

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.

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NOTICE

REVISIONS TO U.S ALUMINUM INDUSTRY NET SHIPMENTS FOR 1984

We understand that the Bureau of Census will soon make major revisions to its M33-2 aluminum shipment data for the first seven months of 1984. Based on information received from some reporting companies, the Aluminum Association estimates that government shipment data for this period will be reduced about 600 million pounds. The actual change when published by Census may be slightly different because of other unpublished corrections it may have in its files.

The table (on reverse side) presents the Association's estimated summary of 1984 shipment data for the first 10 months of the year. It includes our estimates of revisions to government data for the first seven months; published Census August and September data; and our estimate of October.

The seven-month revisions mostly affect ingot data. Inventories were not affected. Shipments for the first nine months show about a 7 percent growth over the same 1983 period rather than the 13 percent shown in the recent November issue of the Aluminum Situation.

The Aluminum Association, Inc.
Department of Economics and Statistics
December 5, 1984

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U.S. ALUMINUM INDUSTRY NET SHIPMENTS
(Millions of Pounds)
PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES*

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.*	Nov.	Dec.	Year to Date*
Sheet	529	530r	639r	516r	559r	527r	488r	494r	433r	497			5212
Plate	19	19	22	19	25	23	20	24	20	25			217
Foil	70	70	76	70	70	76	68	74r	67	77			718
Rod, Bar & Wire	21r	22r	25r	28r	26r	26r	17	24r	15r	25			229
Cable & Insul. Wire	51	54	67	60	60	61	60	68r	64r	70			615
Extruded Products	208	205	221	209	223	220	211	221	218r	244			2180
Welded Tube	7	8	7	6	5	5	4	3	3r	4			53
Powder & Paste	9	7	8	8	8	8	7	9	7	9			81
Forgings & Impacts	11	12	12	13	14	12	12	13	12	14			125
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	53	78	87	67	67	76	104	77	65	78			760
Total Mill Products	988r	1005r	1164r	996r	1057r	1034r	992r	1007r	905r	1043			10191
Ingot (b)	165r	336r	294r	169r	314r	294r	210r	312r	310r	300			2704
Total Shipments	1153r	1341r	1458r	1165r	1371r	1328r	1201r	1319r	1215r	1343			12895
Inventory (Total)	5176	5229	5305	5435	5579	5618	5775	5794r	5879r	5900			
Integrated	4081	4116	4167	4289	4417	4474	4622	4640	4710r	4745			
Secondary Smelter	206	209	214	218	233	240	234	225	235r	225			
Others	889	904	923	928	928	904	919	930r	944r	930			

Detail May Not Add Due to Rounding

*Latest months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in estimates is a 10 to 25% variation.
NOTE: Revisions January through July estimated by the Aluminum Association (to be corrected later by the Bureau of the Census).
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The Association estimates total industry net shipments, based on reports by members of their shipments for the latest month. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.